

# CEO BRIEF | EVERY VOICE COUNTS

**Phillip A. Washington**  
Chief Executive Officer

Friday, December 2, 2016

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### Farewell and Thank You to Outgoing Metro Board Members

Yesterday, Metro Board Directors and Los Angeles County Supervisors Don Knabe and Michael Antonovich served their last Metro Board meeting as they become termed out of their position on the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. Both Director Knabe and Antonovich served on the Metro Board for two decades, guiding the agency through the vast expansion of its operations and services. During his tenure, Supervisor Knabe's high regard for the value of human life led to the initiation of the "Don't Be Silent" public information campaign, which trained thousands of Metro employees to help crack down on the countywide child sex trafficking industry. Director Knabe also strongly advocated for the safe acceleration of the Crenshaw/LAX transit project. Highlights from Supervisor Antonovich's service include his leadership on the creation of the Metro Gold Line to Pasadena and the rail line's past and future expansions, as well as his commitment to economic development, which helped Kinkisharyo establish a rail car factory in Palmdale. Metro would not be able to provide excellence in service and support if not for the foundational leadership set by both directors and I wish them health, happiness and the best of success as they bid farewell to the agency.

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### Register Now: Grand Opening of ONE | Fitness

Also yesterday, we held a ribbon cutting for the Grand Opening of the amazing new Metro Employee

Fitness Center. Located at Gateway on P1, our new on-site facility exclusively serves Metro employees seeking to make health and wellness fit seamlessly into their daily routine. The center will be open and available to Metro employees Monday through Friday, from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and will provide a wide variety of exercise classes and equipment to accommodate every level of physical fitness. Conveniently located next to the P-1 elevators, the 3,000 square foot facility features a studio for group or virtual classes, as well as space for cardio equipment and free weights. New showers and daily lockers will also be provided on-site so that exercise routines can become convenient and accessible for all employees. Special thanks to Facilities Maintenance Supervisor John Flores and Deputy Executive Officer of General Services Steve Jaffe for leading these efforts.



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### Ice Age Mammal Fossils Discovered at Wilshire/La Brea Station Excavation

Metro's paleontologist had an interesting discovery last week. They reported that they have found Ice Age elephant fossils at the Wilshire/La Brea Metro Purple Line Station excavation site. Paleontologists found a three-foot section of tusk and tooth fragments just before the Thanksgiving weekend, and a partial skull with tusks this past Monday. Fossils were found about 15 feet below ground and are in surprisingly good condition considering the dry, sandy soil they were found in. Paleontologists are not sure yet if the fossils are from an ancient mammoth or mastodon, but will be able to tell based on subsequent analysis of the teeth. Cogstone monitors station excavation for Metro and ensures all project fossil discoveries are safely preserved.



## **Philippine Government Awards Metro Employee**

At Thursday's Board Meeting, I had the honor of recognizing Dr. Cris Liban, Metro's Executive Officer in Environmental Compliance and Sustainability for receiving the Pamana ng Pilipino Award, the highest civilian award bestowed to Filipinos living overseas. The Pamana ng Pilipino Award is designed to honor and celebrate the hard work of Filipino people and organizations working around the world. Next month, Dr. Liban will be travelling to the Philippines to receive the award from the Philippine government. We want to thank Dr. Cris Liban for all of the incredible work he does here at Metro and we are filled with gratitude to have such a diverse and internationally-recognized staff member.

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## **Metro Hosts Lone Hill to White Project Community Meetings/Open Houses**

On Wednesday and Thursday this week, we hosted community meetings in San Dimas and La Verne to provide the public with an introduction and overview of the Lone Hill to White Project. This project is in the early phase of an environmental evaluation to determine the feasibility and potential impacts of adding a second rail track next to the existing track that runs between Lone Hill Avenue and White Avenue between the cities of San Dimas and La Verne. Approximately 90 people attended the San Dimas Community Meeting and approximately 50 people at the La Verne Community Meeting. Elected officials and key City staff in attendance included San Dimas Mayor Curt Morris, Councilmember Dennis Bertone, Councilmember Emmet Badar and City Manager Blaine Michaelis. City of La Verne elected representatives included Mayor Hendrick, Councilmember Tim Hepburn, and a representative from Assemblymember Chris Holden's office.

As envisioned, the anticipated benefits of the project include: improved safety and accessibility, improved travel time and reliability, potential improvements to quality of life for the local area residents and community as the project would be designed to Quiet Zone-ready standards and specifications, providing the opportunity for cities to pursue "Quiet Zone" areas along the alignment. The existing railway is part of the San Gabriel Subdivision, which is used primarily by Metrolink commuter rail service (approx. 38 trains daily) as well as Union Pacific Railroad freight service (up to 4 trains daily). Metro is funding this study, is owner of this rail corridor, and will continue to collaborate with Metrolink, the Cities of San Dimas, La Verne and key area stakeholders throughout the development of this environmental study and preliminary design.

The project is currently in the early environmental evaluation phase (5% design/construction) and is anticipated to reach 30% design completion by Summer 2017. A second round of community meetings/open houses to update the public on the progress of the study is anticipated in Summer 2017. Additional funds would need to be identified to allow for completion of final design and construction. [Click here](#) to visit the project webpage and review the project fact sheet for more information.

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## **Union Station/Metro Art Receive Positive Press Coverage on KABC-TV**

KABC-TV's "Eye on LA" program featured Union Station and the various offerings by Metro Art as part of a story on creative and different things to do in Los Angeles. The story included Metro's art and architecture tours, music performances and film screenings, as well as an interactive artwork that serenades visitors when prompted by secret passwords. The story demonstrates how Union Station's profile as a destination has been elevated through high quality, imaginative cultural programming. Watch the story [here](#).

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## **Metro Art Offers First-Ever Tours of Photography Exhibits in Rail Stations**

This Saturday, in our ongoing effort to engage diverse communities, improve the transit environment and

attract customers, Metro Art will offer two special tours exploring photography based artworks in rail stations. The tours, which have garnered social media buzz, will be led by well-regarded curator Sam Lee and include interviews with all five artists. For more details as posted on The Source, please click [here](#).

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## Procurement Postings

### Mist Fire Protection System (RFP)

Metro will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure a high quality and reliable Mist Fire Suppression System to be designed and installed as prototype pilot on a Metro Heavy Rail Vehicle. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Thursday, December 8, 2016 through Friday, January 20, 2017.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Susan Dove, Senior Contracts Manager at (213) 922-7451

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## Construction Notices: Regional Connector, - I-5

Regional Connector Transit Project: Weekend Street Closure -- Spring St. at 2nd St.

- Saturday, December 3, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., traffic lanes at the 2nd St. and Spring St. intersection in Downtown LA will be reconfigured in anticipation of a 4-month long series of weekend street closures.
- This one day task will require a full intersection closure.
- These closures are necessary to build the box for the 2nd/Broadway Station.

Caltrans Interstate 5: All Construction Updates [here](#).

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“Education begins the gentleman, but reading, good company, and reflection must finish him.”

~ John Locke

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323.GO.METRO (323.466.3876)

6:30am - 7pm (Monday - Friday)

8:00am - 4:30pm (Saturday/Sunday)

